

What is claimed is:

[Claim 1] A unitary headboard comprising two posts and at least one cross support extending between the posts, wherein the posts and the at least one cross support are integrally formed from a single piece of material and are capable of supporting a bed frame.

[Claim 2] The unitary headboard of claim 1 wherein the posts and the at least one cross support are integrally formed from a single piece of plywood.

[Claim 3] The unitary headboard of claim 1, further comprising a stacking projection extending from an upper end of each post.

[Claim 4] The unitary headboard of claim 3 wherein the stacking projection is integrally formed from the same piece of material as the posts and the cross support.

[Claim 5] The unitary headboard of claim 3, further comprising a stacking recess in a lower end of each post, wherein the stacking recess is complementary in shape to the stacking projection.

[Claim 6] The unitary headboard of claim 1 wherein the cross support is a stylized shape.

[Claim 7] The unitary headboard of claim 1, further comprising at least one bedpost unit mounted to each post.

[Claim 8] The unitary headboard of claim 1, further comprising a tab insert channel in each post.

[Claim 9] In a bed frame comprising side rails and cross supports, wherein each side rail is formed of a single piece of material, the improvement wherein each side rail comprises an upwardly extending lip and a support ledge extending generally horizontally from the lip.

[Claim 10] The bed frame of claim 9, further comprising a reinforcement flange in each side rail.

[Claim 11] The bed frame of claim 9 wherein the support ledge comprises holes adapted to receive springs.

[Claim 12] The bed frame of claim 9 wherein the lip extends above the support ledge less than 50% of the height of the side rail.

[Claim 13] The bed frame of claim 9, further comprising a gusset at each end of the side rail, wherein the gusset extends above the support ledge.

[Claim 14] In a bed comprising two headboards spaced from each other and a bed frame mounted to and extending between the headboards, the improvement wherein one of the headboards is a unitary headboard comprising two posts and at least one cross support extending between the posts, wherein the posts and the at least one cross support are integrally formed from a single piece of material and are capable of supporting the bed frame.

[Claim 15] The bed of claim 14 wherein the posts and the at least one cross support of the unitary headboard are integrally formed from a single piece of plywood.

[Claim 16] The bed of claim 14 wherein the cross support of the unitary headboard is a stylized shape.

[Claim 17] The bed of claim 14 wherein the bed frame comprises side rails wherein each side rail comprises an upwardly extending lip and a support ledge extending generally horizontally from the lip.

[Claim 18] The bed of claim 14, further comprising a reinforcement flange in each side rail.

[Claim 19] The bed of claim 14 wherein the support ledge comprises holes adapted to receive springs.

[Claim 20] The bed of claim 14 wherein the lip extends above the support ledge less than 50% of the height of the side rail.

[Claim 21] The bed of claim 14, further comprising a gusset at each end of the side rail, wherein the gusset extends above the support ledge.